

conflagration is consuming the errors of statesmen and dynasties; it is not consuming the substance of civilization. Civilization is a unity. War with Europe would have cut asunder the moral forces that bind the nations and left an age of darkness, anarchy and despair.

Standing on the immutable foundations of such Americanism, the schoolmaster and statesman, with consummate skill, a skill that commands the admiration of the world, directs the forces of civilization, not with arms, but with reason and moral pressure against the excesses of a belligerent world. With preternatural poise and clearness of vision, he is piloting America through the rushing storm. Who can deny the existence of a moral design in the universe? Who can question its fulfillment? Who now can close his eyes to the destiny of democracy to make the principles of civilization dominant, to bring the warring nations of the earth together in lasting peace?

#### World's Real Pacifier

The passions of men die. The truth lives. America has called to Europe; Europe is responding in terms of a revitalized civilization. The sublimest picture in civil history is that of a plain American citizen maneuvering with the weapons of reason and humanity against the navies and armies of the contending nations, and bringing them in accord with the principles of international law. The American standard of peace and justice now floats on the sea. It is unfurling over the trenches of the struggling nations. From the vantage ground of imperishable Americanism the matchless craft of a real pacifist has not only avoided all war, but is leading the world into the ways of peace.

What is peace but the assertion of moral progress? What is the assertion of moral progress but the indestructible civilization of Europe and America? From the smoldering ruins of a thousand cities, over the graves of millions of brave men, out of the blackness of the battle smoke, arising from the obscurities of national passions, already the peoples of the earth recognize the dim outlines, growing ever more distinct, of the composite soul of America in the patient and humane wisdom of the world's real pacifier.

Of what avail all the wealth of our beloved land if it had been consumed in the destructiveness of war? What avail the travail of human progress for 10,000 years had not the schoolmaster and statesman been pacifier? His achievement is so vast that ambitious men are blind to its reality. But the plain millions, of all creeds and nationalities, recognize in it the imperishable glories of a Christian civilization. It glorifies the peasant and king alike.

The schoolmaster is statesman, the statesman is financier, the financier is emancipator, the emancipator is the pacifier of the world.

#### Destiny of Democracy

Thus is the nation accomplishing the destiny of democracy. The commanding fact of the modern age is the spread of intelligence. The printing press has transformed the purposes and capacities of man. Education has qualified him for a better existence. The Bible has made him a moralist. Men know that the world is big enough to support the human family in peace and comfort. Men know that the great problem of peace and comfort is not yet solved. They know that it can not be solved by the savagery of war. They know that its solution is obtainable only in conditions of peace, reason and a practical morality. This state of knowledge is the crowning achievement of progress.

The American experiment of self-government has stood the test. The achievements of the American sys-

tem are known of all men and felt throughout the world. The United States is the world's asylum. Here all races, all conditions, all creeds are assimilated, helped, elevated, and men are made into self-governing men. In America justice has made its greatest progress, because it is progress in which all men have a part. That form of government which affords the fullest opportunity for happiness and comfort is destined to become the universal form. Such is the resistless syllogism of progress. War can not stop its inevitable march. The opinion of all men is more potent than the opinion of one man. The best opinion of the best men by the force of example and mutuality of interest becomes the opinion of all men. American opinion is embodied in a man of peace. American opinion is marching through the world.

#### World's League of Peace

When the imperialism of Europe cast the iron dice of destiny, America threw the moral dice of destiny. America staked the principles of her justice. There they stand in untarnished integrity in the gaze of a stricken world. The intelligence of men grasp the meaning of America. Her example will readjust the relations of men everywhere. The aspirations of men are for freedom. Men and women can and should rule themselves. The day when they rule themselves war will disappear. The hand of divinity has so written it in the needs and necessities of humanity made in its image.

America, prosperous, peaceful, blessed, is so because the inscrutable purposes of God intended it. The contrast between Europe in flames and suffering and the United States peaceful and prosperous is the divine contrast. By saving the American system civilization is saved. The peace of America demonstrates the folly of war. The principles of democracy furnish the means of avoiding and preventing war. The universal intelligence of men decrees that the war now devastating Europe shall be the last war. It will end in a world's league of peace.

Sons of America, keep unsullied the sacred shrines of peace, through whose portals will yet pass arm in arm the crowned head and the humble peasant in silent worship of God.

#### His Deeds Renominate Him

Out of the ruins and sufferings of the present conflict will arise a temple of justice whose dome will be the blue vault of heaven; its illuminants the eternal stars; its pillars the everlasting hills; its ornaments the woods and bountiful fields; its music the rippling rills, the song of birds, the laughter of happy childhood; its diapason the roar of mills and the hum of industry; its votaries the peoples of the earth; its creed, on which hangs all the law and the prophets, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Above its altars in ineffable color will live eternally the vision of its artificer.

Therefore, my fellow-countrymen, not I, but his deeds and achievements; not I, but the spirit and purposes of America; not I, but the prayers of just men; not I, but civilization itself, nominates to succeed himself to the presidency of the United States, to the presidency of a hundred million free people, bound in impregnable union, the scholar, the statesman, the financier, the emancipator, the pacifier, the moral leader of democracy, Woodrow Wilson.

#### "DRY" LAW CAUSES DECREASE IN NUMBER OF CONVICTS

The new "dry" law has caused such a shortage in convicts that the board of county commissioners of Fulton county held a special meeting to consider authorizing contracts

for paving and road jobs hitherto done by chain gangs.

One of the pending jobs is the Pryor street underpass. The present number of convicts is far too short to carry on all the county's work.—Atlanta Constitution.

#### THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

On the occasion of his recent visit to Brown university to receive an honorary degree Secretary Lane, who has said as many things worth saying as any member of the present administration, made a timely protest against the talk we are now hearing about growing flabby in times of peace.

Fortunately Mr. Hughes was present to attend a reunion of his college class, the class of 1881, and he listened attentively while Mr. Lane was speaking. In fact, his subsequent remarks were in the main determined by the suggestions of the secretary.

Mr. Lane said:

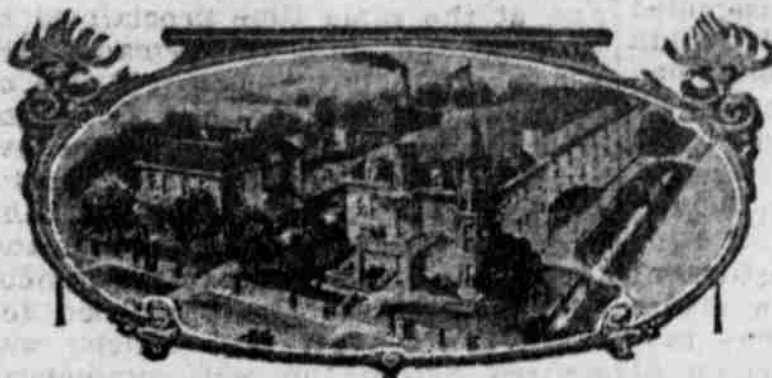
"The spirit of America is against war, not because we have grown cowardly and fear death, nor because we have grown flabby and love softness, nor even because we have become conscious converts to the Prince

of Peace. But we in America have something larger to do. We are discovering our country. We have no time for war. We are doing something so much more important. We are at work. That is the greatest of all adventures. When war comes to a democracy it comes because we are not allowed peacefully to work. What would we fight for? For what Roger Williams fought for—to be let alone, and to have the opportunity to show what man can do for man."

That is the solid gospel of Americanism, the only Americanism worth while, and it is well set forth.

The Americanism we are hearing so much about these days is merely a sham Europeanism, a revival on the western continent of the very spirit the fathers most feared as they came to set the standards for this new venture.

Mr. Roosevelt is the only man speaking with authority who is proclaiming that the war spirit will alone keep us from becoming flabby. Without a single other exception the men who are determining the future are men who know that earnestness and intensity and fearlessness are more frequently the triumphs of peace than of war. — Des Moines Register and Leader.



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